

REMARKS

Claims 1-4 are pending in this application, of which claim 1 has been amended. No new claims have been added.

Claims 1-2 and 4 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Shiyouji et al. in view of Komei and Kudo (all previously applied in the Office Action mailed December 15, 2004).

The Examiner has maintained from the previous Office Action the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of claim 3 as unpatentable over Shiyouji et al. in view of Komei and Kudo.

Applicant respectfully traverses both of these rejections.

In Applicant's previous response filed March 15, 2005, it was noted that Shiyouji et al. discloses an order accepting and selling device. When a customer inputs a piece of merchandise, for which a home delivery is desired, to an order accepting terminal equipment 1, the equipment 1 transmits order information to a center device 2. The device 2 processes the procedure of the home delivery and indicates a locker device 3 to deliver the piece of merchandise. When a delivery person inputs the recipient information to the device 3, the device 3 compares the recipient information with user information, and when both the pieces of information coincide with each other, the device 3 controls to keep of the piece of merchandise and stores the recipient information. When the recipient inputs the principal information after that, the device 3 compares the principal information with the recipient information and allows the taking out of the piece of saved merchandise only when both the pieces of information coincide with each

other. Consequently, the subject device can be used even by the unspecified third person, and the availability can be improved.

Komei has been cited for disclosing the use of detection sensors 15A-15N to detect the presence of a delivered parcel.

The Examiner urges that Paragraph [0030] discloses that the contact information of the recipient (name, room number, telephone number) is stored at the managing center (refer to Paragraph [0030], lines 4-5) of Shiyouji et al. This feature is also not disclosed in the cited reference.

Neither reference discloses that the recipient can access a site at the management center. A web server would not be permitted because it is not a secure communications link.

Kudo has been cited for teaching the use of a telephone automatic answering system.

Kudo, like Shiyouji et al. and Komei discussed above, fails to disclose the managing center recited in claims 1-2 and 4.

The Examiner states in the Office Action on page 6 the following:

With respect to page 8, third full para. Applicant does not claim recipient information as (name, room number or telephone number). Line 8 of the Constitution refers to receiver information which is commensurate with that which is claimed.

With respect to the argument at page 8 fourth para., applicant argues that the management center is not taught. However, the examiner offered element 4 as the management center and applicant has not provided an argument as to which element 4 cannot meet the claimed limitation. Element 4 is sufficient as a management center.

Applicant cannot locate element 4 in Shiyouji et al.

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/895,325
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Shiyouji et al. appears to disclose none of the features to which the Examiner has specifically referred, leading to a conclusion that the Examiner may have misquoted the citations or otherwise confused them.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite what constitutes "recipient information."

Thus, the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejections of claims 1-4, as amended, should be reconsidered and withdrawn.

In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, claims 1-4, as amended, are in condition for allowance, which action, at an early date, is requested.

If, for any reason, it is felt that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the applicant's undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, the applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

